

IN THE CLAIMS

Claim 1. (Currently Amended) A method of forming multiple simultaneous active wireless connections between a wireless client and two or more separate wireless access points in a wireless local area network, the method comprising the steps of:

obtaining, by the wireless client, a primary active affiliation between the wireless client and a first wireless access point in the wireless local area network, the primary active affiliation being a first connection that the wireless client may use to send data to the first wireless access point over the wireless local area network;

maintaining, by the wireless client, the primary active affiliation between the wireless client and the first wireless access point in the wireless local area network while also locating, by the wireless client, at least a second wireless access point in the wireless local area network;

engaging, by the wireless client, at least one of the located the second wireless access points in the wireless local area network to form at least a second active affiliation between the wireless client and the second wireless access point in the wireless local area network, the second active affiliation being a second connection that the wireless client may also use to send data to the second wireless access point over the wireless local area network, while still maintaining the primary active affiliation between the wireless client and the first wireless access point in the wireless local area network, such that the wireless client simultaneously may use either the primary active affiliation or the second active affiliation to send data on the wireless local area network.

Claim 2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the second active affiliation is a primary affiliation.

Claim 3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the second active affiliation is a secondary affiliation.

Claim 4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of locating adjacent second access wireless access points comprises scanning beacon signals from other wireless access points.

Claim 5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of obtaining a primary active affiliation with the first wireless access point comprises generating a first request to send message and sending the first request to send message to the first wireless access point.

Claim 6. (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein the step of engaging the second wireless access point comprises generating a second request to send message and sending the second request to send message to the first wireless access point.

Claim 7. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein the second request to send message includes identification information about the second wireless access point.

Claim 8. (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein the step of engaging the second wireless access point comprises generating a second request to send message and sending the second request to send message to the second wireless access point.

Claim 9. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein the second request to send message includes identification information about the first wireless access point.

Claim 10. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising receiving first data from the first wireless access point and receiving second data from the second wireless access point.

Claim 11. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 10, wherein the step of receiving the second data from the second access point is initiated before the step of receiving the first data from the first wireless access point has been completed.

Claim 12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 10, wherein the wireless client has a first IP address associated with the first active affiliation and a second IP address associated with the second active affiliation.

Claims 13-23. (Canceled)